



The Parliament Buildings at Ottawa, seat of the Federal Government.

the ages of 18 and 45—enlisted in the Armed Services.

Canadian forces were among the first to attack Nazi Europe, at Dieppe; the participation of Canadians in the landings in Sicily was a notable prelude to their efforts throughout the Italian campaign; and Canadian men and ships found a worthy place in the great assault on the beaches of Normandy, and in the liberation of Northwestern Europe.

Industrial production kept pace with this extraordinary expansion of the armed services. Canada rose to second place among the exporting nations of the world, with four-fifths of its exports made up of war goods for the Allies, from mines, munitions plants, shipyards, and tank and aircraft factories. Under the

Mutual Aid Act of 1943, Canada made these war supplies available as an outright gift to any member of the United Nations who could use them against the enemy and had not the means of payment. Total contributions under Mutual Aid exceeded \$2,000 millions, and other similar grants brought the total value of Canada's wartime gifts to the Allies to approximately \$4,000 millions. Canada alone, of all the co-belligerents, did not participate in Lend-Lease: all materials received from the United States were paid for in cash. The total cost of the war to Canada was about \$19,000 millions.

Canada's efforts in the Second World War greatly enhanced its world prestige. Its international financial position was strengthened by a large reduction in its net external indebtedness, the versatility and vigour of its industry was demonstrated, and increasingly it began to assert the influence and to assume the responsibilities to which its growing power entitled it.

Canada is a federal state with a parliamentary system of government. Insofar as Canada has a written constitution, it is the British North America Act, and its subsequent amendments. The greater part of Canadian constitutional practice is, however, unwritten, and stems from historical precedent.

The distribution of legislative power, which determines the respective jurisdictions of the provincial and federal governments, is defined by the B.N.A. Act, and determined, in cases of doubt, by the courts. Matters concerning the country as a whole, such as defence, trade and commerce, banking, transportation, and external relations, are assigned to the jurisdiction of the federal government. Some matters such as property and civil

## The Government of Canada

Prime Minister St. Laurent welcomes Newfoundland.

At his left: Secretary of State Gordon Bradley; former Prime Minister Mackenzie King

